

7-31-88

Washington July 30<sup>th</sup> 1888.  
Rev J. A. Stephan

Dear Miss K. M. Doolittle.

Your letters of July 27<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> came to hand,

also the plans from Mr. Burns were received. I would have answered your first letter promptly, but was in such a state of confusion & troubles, caused by the 'Seets' on account of my too many contracts for Indian schools (\$320,000<sup>00</sup> this year.); so that Secretary Vilas got scared and he and myself have had a long conference last Friday and yesterday again. I made 2 full written statements and explanations. I found out that the Protestants have many unoccupied school-houses in the Indian Territory amongst the 5 civilized ~~tribes~~ tribes, for which they seek Gov<sup>t</sup> aid, but were refused last year and waited and watched for my applications in order to entrap me for opening the door for them. - By the oversight of the Benedictine fathers, they did build at Purcell in the Chickasaw country, instead of across the line; and St. Michaels at ~~Lelia~~ Leighi in the Choctaw nation, both civilized tribes, instead as you and I had laid it out to build at the Comanche's reservation. Therefore I tried to withdraw my contracts for those 2 places, in order to prevent the Protestants from getting contracts, which would take away from us \$85,000<sup>00</sup>. They tried very hard and bitter, that my contracts should stand and not to be allowed to be withdrawn, but I succeeded in getting the contracts back and thus defeated them and their old school-houses have a quiet vacation for one more year. - As Very Rev. Ignace O. S. B. gets this year from the general collection about \$7,000<sup>00</sup> as his allotment he can easily support the few scholars he has at Leighi & Purcell. The other schools in the Indian Territory are all right. We must be careful not to make another blunder. They go ahead, like a train, not caring where

thy land. I am thankful to God that he kept me here to do that work.

To your kind letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> I have to say:

1. I shall advise Rev. Ulbach to get the Indian land (120 acres, which was an Indian mission and belongs by right to the Indians) from the Bishop and build a school there, where they have plenty of water and good tillable land. —
  2. Rev. Bandini S. J. got in all, up to date \$6000.00 for building. Your idea, to get the property in the name of the Bureau, if you send him \$5000.00 more, is an excellent, just and correct one, but my sad experience tells and teaches me forcibly, that the Jesuits will not consent to it, and may at any time change the school into a white school, if they deem it more profitable for themselves.
  3. the iron bedsteads — 215 — were ordered by you to be shipped to Rensselaer and from there re-shipped in parcels to the different Indian missions. I have sent him <sup>Rev. Willard</sup> the list and directions, but I think it would be best you pay for the extra boxing, it is cheapest in the end.
  4. wrote to Bishop Junger to send Very Rev. Hylebos for 6 months.
  5. You kindly ask me: "how are you". My bodily health is some better, but my mind is a "perpetuum mobile" in confusion, and I consider it a great rest, when dare, and can leave Washington the roasting griddle.
  6. Student Werg. C. P. S. I., who called on you, is the person he represents to be, ✓ but better wait with your donation untill I see what help I get from his order for the poor Indians. I wrote to the Provincial at Cartagena.
- To your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> I have to say:

M<sup>rs</sup> K.

2.

1. please engage Mr. Paul A. Reilly from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug. and let him make all his plans and prepare a list of tools, which we will buy in Chicago. Whenever he is ready send him to St<sup>+</sup> Josephs and give him a letter to Muhlbauer & Behre, who can tell him where to find me.
  2. I will write to-day to Bishop Brondell to allow the Ursuline Sisters to take charge of St<sup>+</sup> Stephens Ind. School Wyoming.
  3. I did sent yester-day John O'Connor of Philadelphia and Henry Murdock of Washington D.C. both 18 years old, to St<sup>+</sup> Josephs to prepare to be Indian teachers. I instructed them since 10 days daily and told them to be kind industrious and self-sacrificing, else I do not want them. Better give them a bitter dose first, which cures and keeps the spiritual stomach best.
- Heavens best blessing to all of You. -

As soon as I can start from here, I will let You know at once. Address me now: Inn building and when I am gone best: 41 Lasalle Str. Chicago.

Truly Yours

in the Sacred Hearts,  
J. A. Stephan.